



**Testimony
Betsy Gara
Executive Director
Connecticut Council of Small Towns
Judiciary Committee
March 12, 2014**

**Re: SB-432, AN ACT PROVIDING NOTICE TO THE CEO OF A MUNICIPALITY
UPON THE RELEASE OF A REGISTERED SEXUAL OFFENDER INTO SUCH
MUNICIPALITY**

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) *supports* **SB-432**, which requires the state to notify the chief elected official of a municipality via email when a registered sex offender will be released to the community.

Protecting the safety and welfare of residents is a chief responsibility of municipal government. This bill will provide municipal officials with the information needed to take steps to protect residents

COST also urges lawmakers to amend the bill to address concerns regarding the placement of sex offenders in halfway houses. Municipal officials should be apprised of the placement of such individuals and the measures in place to ensure the safety of nearby residents.

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